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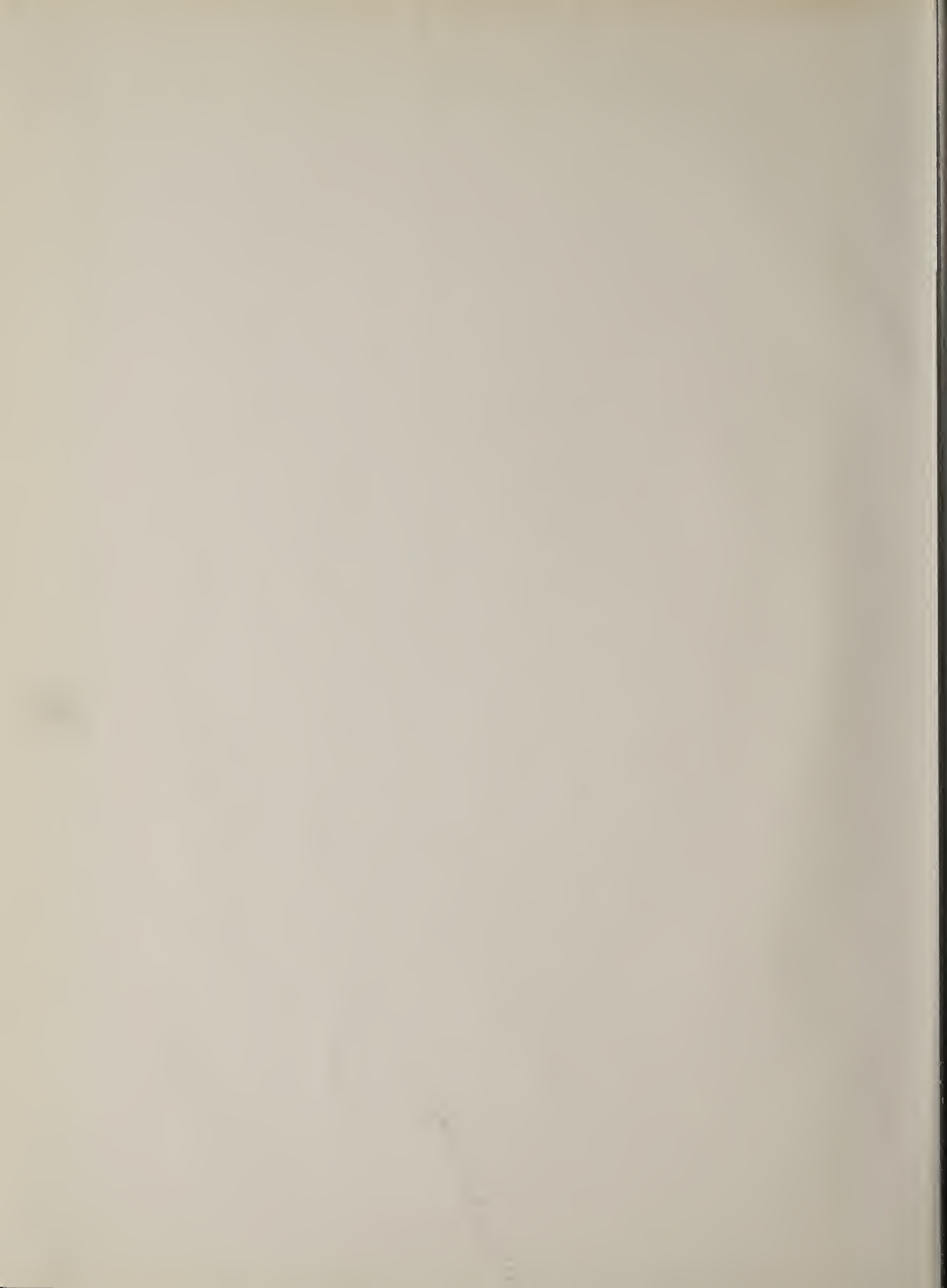
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Family of David and Frances  
Elizabeth (Roxby) Shenton

by

Seth F. Shenton

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Shenton, Seth Francis, 1885-

The family of David and Frances Elizabeth  
(Roxby) Shenton. [Fullerton, Calif. 1959]  
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GENEALOGY

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1. Shenton family (David Shenton, 1842-  
1910)

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THE FAMILY OF

DAVID AND FRANCES ELIZABETH (ROXBY) SHENTON

DAVID SHENTON: son of William and Hannah (Bolton) Shenton.  
Born July 17, 1842 at Talke, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire,  
England.  
Died May 12, 1910, Atlantic, Iowa, Buried at Atlantic,  
Iowa.

FRANCES ELIZABETH ROXBY: daughter of Jeremiah and \_\_\_\_\_ Roxby.  
Born August 20, 1842 at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northumberland,  
England.  
Died December 20, 1899, College Springs, Iowa. Buried at  
Atlantic, Iowa.

DAVID SHENTON and FRANCES ELIZABETH ROXBY: married July 12, 1864.

DAVID SHENTON and HELEN R. CRISMAN: married September 22, 1902

Helen R. (Crisman) Shenton died March 7, 1926,  
Buried at Atlantic, Iowa.

\* \* \* \* \*

Children of David and Frances Elizabeth Shenton

ELENOR BYERS SHENTON: born May 17, 1865, Jackson, Michigan  
Died Nov. 23, 1920, Kirksville, Mo.

JOB SHENTON: born March 9, 1868, Newton, Iowa  
Died May 12, 1891, Atlantic Iowa

GEORGE SHENTON: born February 3, 1870, Newton, Iowa  
Died September 1, 1933, Perry Iowa

EMMA SHENTON: born August 27, 1872, Newton, Iowa  
Died February 3, 1914, Anita, Iowa

WILLIAM SHENTON: born October 12, 1878, Adel, Iowa  
Died February 11, 1888, Shelby, Iowa

DAVID JOHN SHENTON: born August 8, 1880, De Soto, Iowa  
Died November 13, 1940, Des Moines, Iowa

SETH FRANCIS SHENTON: born August 6, 1885, Guthrie Center, Iowa.



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THE FAMILY OF DAVID AND FRANCES ELIZABETH (ROXBY) SHENTON

FIRST CHILD: ELEANOR BYERS SHENTON

Born May 17, 1865, Jackson, Michigan  
Married: Edward L. VonEschen, Nov. 20, 1900, Kirksville, Mo.  
Died: November 23, 1920, Kirksville, Mo. Buried at Shelby,  
Iowa.  
Edward L. VonEschen died Oct. 9, 1934, Kirksville, Mo.,  
Buried at Shelby, Iowa.

CHILDREN:

- (A) Frances Elizabeth VonEschen. Address: 508 W. Walker,  
Kirksville, Mo.  
Born: Oct. 4, 1901, Kirksville, Mo.  
Married: Maurice O. Rook, Jan. 19, 1924, Union, Mo.  
(Divorced)  
Married: Freddie E. McCartney, Jan. 3, 1928,  
Anthony, Kansas.  
Freddie E. McCartney died Apr. 3, 1956, Kirksville, Mo.

Children:

- (1) Walter Edward Rook Born: Oct. 5, 1924  
Missing in action aboard USS Jarvis at  
Guadalcanal, South Pacific, Aug. 8, 1942.  
A seaman 1/c, the Navy declared him dead  
July 12, 1945.
- (2) Emma Frances McCartney.  
Born: Sept. 30, 1928, Manchester, Okla.  
Married: Emrose Earl Price-March 4, 1951,  
Hawthorne, Nevada.

Children:

- (a) William Crawford Price (adopted), Born Aug.  
28, 1948, Kirksville, Mo.
- (3) Freddie Lawrence McCartney: Born-Died Jan. 16,  
1930, Kirksville, Mo.
- (4) Laurel Joseph McCartney: Born May 1, 1931,  
Kirksville, Mo.  
Married: Mary Hinkle April 29, 1951, Baker, Ore.

Children:

- (a) David Lee McCartney: Born April 6, 1952,  
Baker, Oregon
- (5) Brother McCartney: Born-Died Jan. 18, 1932,  
Kirksville, Mo.
- (6) Vienna Elizabeth McCartney: Born June 26, 1933,  
Kirksville, Mo.  
Married: Victor C. VanDyne, Apr. 6, 1952,  
Kirksville, Mo.



Children:

(a) Terry Dale VanDyne: Born Oct. 26, 1957,  
Kirksville, Mo.

(7) Eleanor Alice McCartney: Born April 4, 1939,  
Kirksville, Mo.

(8) David Pyron McCartney: Born July 7, 1941,  
Kirksville, Mo.

(B) Emma Roseanna VonEschen. Address: Bellflower, Mo.

Born: Oct. 4, 1903, Kirksville, Mo.

Married: George Obersmith-April 8, 1928, Clarksville,  
Mo.

George Obersmith died July 1, 1948, Bellflower, Mo.

Children:

(1) Betty Margaret Obersmith: Born Feb. 4, 1929,  
Bellflower, Mo.  
Married: Harry Edward Kneubuhler, April 24,  
1952, Bowling Green, Mo.

(2) Mary Lee Obersmith: Born Jan. 29, 1934, Mexico, Mo.  
Married: James Franklin Trower, May 24, 1952,  
Bellflower, Mo.

Children:

(a) James Ronald Trower: Born July 29, 1953,  
Mexico, Mo.

(b) Sharon Lee Trower: Born April 19, 1955,  
Shelby, Mich.

(c) Georgia Sue Trower: Born April 12, 1958,  
Shelby, Mich.

(3) Dorothy Ann Obersmith: Born Aug. 26, 1935,  
Mexico, Mo.  
Married: Thomas Armstrong, Jr., July 7, 1956.

Children:

(a) Garry Gene Armstrong: Born Apr. 28, 1958,  
Shelby, Mich.

(C) David Shenton VonEschen, Major Air Force, Address: 284 W.  
650 N., Clearfield, Utah

Born: February 4, 1907, Kirksville, Mo.

Married: Hazel Worthington, June 2, 1928, Kirksville, Mo.

Children:

(1) David VonEschen, Jr., Lieut. Ordnance, Army  
Born: May 29, 1929, Kirksville, Mo.  
Killed in action in Korea, Sept. 17, 1950.  
Buried at Kirksville, Mo.



(2) Barbara Jean VonEschen: Born Jan. 16, 1932,  
Kirksville, Mo.  
Married: William Vincent Bauer, Nov. 15, 1952,  
Kirksville, Mo.

Children:

- (a) Victoria Lee Bauer: Born March 12, 1954;  
North Hollywood, Calif.
- (b) Kurt Vincent Bauer: Born Aug. 8, 1955, North  
Hollywood, Calif.
- (c) Erica Ann Bauer: Born Oct. 30, 1957, North  
Hollywood, Calif.

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SECOND CHILD: JOB SHENTON

Born March 9, 1868, Newton, Iowa  
Married: Rena Vincent, Dec. 25, 1890, Brighton, Iowa  
Died: May 12, 1891. Buried at Atlantic, Iowa.

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THIRD CHILD: GEORGE SHENTON

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Born Feb. 3, 1870, Newton, Iowa  
Married: Rose Porter, Sept. 1, 1901, Perry, Iowa  
Rose Porter: Born June 28, 1873, Madison County, Iowa.  
Address: 1702 Otley Ave., Perry, Iowa.  
Died: Sept. 1, 1933, Perry, Iowa. Buried at Perry, Iowa.

CHILDREN:

- (A) Frances Mary Shenton. Address: R.#1, Perry, Iowa  
Born: April 29, 1905, Perry, Iowa  
Married: Clarence N. Ridnour, Feb. 14, 1942.

Children:

- (1) George David Ridnour, born June 2, 1943, Perry, Iowa  
Died: Feb. 25, 1950. Buried at Perry, Iowa.
- (B) Rose Roxby Shenton: Address: 1702 Otley Ave., Perry, Iowa  
Born: Aug. 20, 1907, Perry, Iowa.

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FOURTH CHILD: EMMA SHENTON

Born August 27, 1872, Newton, Iowa.  
Married: Gay E. Nichols, Feb. 28, 1894, Osceola, Iowa.  
Gay E. Nichols: born April 4, 1872, Guthrie Center, Iowa.  
Died: June 30, 1926, New Virginia, Iowa.  
Buried at Anita, Iowa.

Died: Feb. 3, 1914. Buried at Anita, Iowa.



CHILDREN:

- (A) John Wesley Nichols. Address: 1501 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill.  
Born: Jan. 26, 1897, Atlantic, Iowa.  
Married: Myrna M. McCready, June 30, 1934, Evanston, Ill.

Children:

- (1) John Jay Nichols, born Jan. 12, 1925, Walnut, Iowa.

- (B) George Byron Nichols. Address: Box 68, Route 3, Brookings, So. Dak.  
Born: July 1, 1899, Guthrie County, Iowa.  
Married: Esther Marie Anderson, March 20, 1931, Forestburg, So. Dak.

Children:

- (1) Phyllis Ann Nichols, born Dec. 1, 1934, Ladysmith, Wisc.  
Married: Charles Emmet Nielson July 23, 1953, Brookings, So. Dak.

Children:

- (a) Linda Kay Nielsen, Born Dec. 11, 1954, Anderson, Ind.  
(b) Randall Keith Nielsen, Born Sept. 25, 1957, Anderson, Ind.  
(c) Mark Alan Nielsen, Born Oct. 4, 1959, St. Joseph, Mich.

- (2) Richard Gay Nichols, Born July 4, 1936, Rusk County, Wisc.  
Married: Shirley Marie Bjorklund, July 18, 1959, Brookings, So. Dak.

- (C) Myrtle Adelaide Nichols.  
Born: May 16, 1905, Exira, Iowa.  
Married: Archie Ernest Green, July 10, 1928, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Died: July 31, 1959, Osceola, Iowa. Buried at New Virginia, Iowa.

Children:

- (1) William Elmer Green. Born Dec. 18, 1929, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Married: Betty Lou Cummings, June 12, 1955, Bevington, Iowa.

Children:

- (a) Lynne Ellen Green. Born Oct. 19, 1957, Winterset, Iowa.



- (2) Donald Lloyd Green. Born Nov. 26, 1931, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Married: Betty Ann Nelson. Sept. 30, 1951, Osceola, Iowa.

Children:

- (a) Patricia Jean Green. Born Nov. 11, 1955(adopted)  
(b) Mark Alan Green, Born Oct. 10, 1956(adopted).  
(c) Rodney Lee Green. Born June 23, 1957,  
Died June 25, 1957.

- (3) John Harvey Green. Born Dec. 12, 1937, Osceola, Iowa.

- (D) Martha Marie Nichols. Address: 413 Stanley, Boise, Idaho  
Born: Nov. 14, 1907, Patterson, Iowa.  
Married: Arthur Chester Ramsey, May 8, 1932, Des Moines, Iowa.

Children:

- (1) Howard Arthur Ramsey. Born June 20, 1937, Hollywood, Calif.  
(2) Kenneth Raymond Ramsey. Born Oct. 1, 1938, Los Angeles, Calif.

- (E) Lloyd Elmer Nichols. Address: Anita, Iowa.  
Born: April 20, 1910, Patterson, Iowa.  
Married: Gladys Mae Sager, July 3, 1932, Des Moines, Iowa.

Children:

- (1) Darlene Alberta Nichols. Born July 10, 1934.  
Married: John Miles, July 3, 1954.

Children:

- (a) John Robert Miles. Born Dec. 3, 1954, New York City.  
(b) Charles David Miles. Born April 28, 1956, New York City.  
(c) Steven Lloyd Miles. Born Sept. 8, 1958, New York City.

- (2) Charles Leroy Nichols. Born Aug. 3, 1935, Anita, Iowa.

- (3) Lloyd Byron Nichols. Born July 22, 1936, Anita, Iowa.  
Married: Brenda Toney, Aug. 2, 1958, Bremerton, Wash.

Children:

- (a) Curtis Ray Nichols. Born April 26, 1959, Bremerton, Wash.



- (4) Robert Lee Nichols. Born April 13, 1939, Atlantic,  
Iowa.  
Died: July 27, 1949.
- (5) Dixie Anne Nichols, Born Sept. 2, 1942, Atlantic,  
Iowa.
- (6) Gae Eugene Nichols, Born Feb. 21, 1945, Atlantic,  
Iowa.
- (7) Glenn Allen Nichols. Born Aug. 20, 1946, Atlantic,  
Iowa.

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FIFTH CHILD: WILLIAM SHENTON

Born: Oct. 12, 1878, Adel, Iowa.  
Died: Feb. 11, 1888, Buried at Shelby, Iowa.

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SIXTH CHILD: DAVID JOHN SHENTON

Born: Aug. 8, 1880, De Soto, Iowa.  
Married: Anna B. Crisman, Sept. 10, 1907, Atlantic, Iowa.  
Anna B. Crisman, born Jan. 5, 1882, Atlantic, Iowa.  
died: Nov. 25, 1953, Council Bluffs, Ia.  
Buried at Atlantic, Iowa.  
Died: Nov. 13, 1940, Des Moines, Iowa. Buried at Atlantic, Iowa.

CHILDREN:

- (A) Dorothy Helen Shenton. Address: Tabor, Iowa.  
Born: March 11, 1912, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Married: Edward Sidney Newlon, April 26, 1936,  
Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Children:

- (1) Mary Ann Newlon, Born: Nov. 29, 1939, Council  
Bluffs, Iowa.
- (2) David Sidney Newlon, Born: Aug. 26, 1943, Council  
Bluffs, Iowa.

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SEVENTH CHILD: SETH FRANCIS SHENTON

Address: 1109 E. Whiting Ave., Fullerton,  
Calif.

Born: Aug. 6, 1885, Guthrie Center, Iowa.  
Married: Grace Bailey, Nov. 19, 1912, Indianola, Iowa.  
Grace Bailey, born Oct 25, 1885, Linden, Iowa.



CHILDREN:

- (A) Edna June Shenton. Address: 1112 N. Stanford Ave.,  
Fullerton, Calif.  
Born: Sept. 27, 1913, Indianola, Iowa.  
Married: Neil R. Nelson, June 28, 1947, Piedmont, Calif.

Children:

- (1) David Lewis Nelson, Born July 8, 1948,  
Fullerton, Calif.

- (B) David Bailey Shenton.

Born: June 11, 1918, Indianola, Iowa.  
Died: Aug. 3, 1939, Des Moines, Iowa.  
Buried: at Indianola, Iowa.

- (C) Seth Francis Shenton, Jr. Address: 220 Jacaranda, Orange,  
Calif.  
Born: Nov. 14, 1923, Indianola, Iowa.  
Married: Marjorie Lucille Fryatt, July 17, 1954.

Children:

- (1) Sheila Mae Shenton. Born Jan. 15, 1956, Orange, Calif.  
(2) Brent Jay Shenton. Born March 21, 1959, Orange, Cal.



As I am the last member of the family of David and Frances Elizabeth Shenton, I have taken the liberty of gathering the information concerning the family which appears in these pages. It has been an interesting task, contacting my nephews and nieces, four of whom I have seen this past summer. I wish to sincerely thank all of them for their splendid cooperation. Without their help, the job would have been impossible.

I am setting down the following statements, part of them from facts of record and the balance from recollections which have been in mind most of my life. I will appreciate receiving additional information concerning either my father or mother from my nieces and nephews. I plan to start to trace the history of my Grandfather Shenton's family and also my mother's family as soon as this outline is completed.

Both of my parents came from poor families. My Grandfather Shenton was a coal miner in Staffordshire, England, and my father went to work in the mines carrying picks to the workmen when he was seven years old. Consequently his opportunity for an education was very limited. It has been my understanding that he received much help from my mother when he was preparing to enter the Methodist ministry in 1868.

My Grandfather brought his family to America when my father was 16 years old. They settled in New Brunswick and, so far as I can learn, both were employed in the coal mines. My father became a steam engineer and worked as such in the mines. Soon after my parents were married, they moved to Jackson, Mich. where my oldest sister was born and where my father was employed in a salt mine. My Grandfather and my father moved their families to Newton, Iowa about 1867, where my father was employed as an engineer in a flour mill.

He became a local Methodist preacher and in 1868 was assigned by the Des Moines Methodist Conference to the Greencastle circuit and organized the church at Colfax. He was admitted to full membership in the conference in 1873 and sent to Adel as minister. He was a member of the Des Moines conference until his death in 1910, serving at Greencastle Circuit, Adel, DeSoto, Guthrie Center, Shelby, Atlantic, Osceola, Coin, College Springs, Carson, Stuart and Hancock, a period of more than 40 years.

My paternal grandparents had a family of 12 children, six of whom reached maturity. Of these, I saw only one aunt and one uncle. My father's older brother, Job, was a Methodist minister at St. John, New Brunswick. His younger brother, George, lived on a small farm (near Newton) which belonged to my father. My father's oldest sister, Emma, married Richard Jones, and after his death, she returned to England and married his brother, Henry Jones. She visited at my parents' home several times, because my Grandmother Shenton lived at our house until after my mother's death in 1899.



Of my mother's family, I know practically nothing. I have heard her refer to a sister, Nellie (Mrs. Mitchell) and to some brothers. What my maternal grandmother's maiden name was I have only the suspicion that it was Byers, because that name appears as the middle name of my oldest sister. You will notice that this sister's name first appears in this outline spelled "Elenor", for that is the spelling in my father's handwriting in the family Bible. My mother died when I was only 14 years old, so my memories of her are very scant.

The David Shenton family consisted of five boys and two girls. My oldest sister was 20 when I was born and I have no recollection of my two older brothers living at home. The family fell into two groups, my sisters and my two older brothers in one group, separated from my brother David and myself by my brother William, who died at the age of 9.

Some facts concerning each of the children and their families are as follows:

My oldest sister, Eleanor, was handicapped practically all her life and then met a tragic death. A fall from a swing when she was 9 years old blinded her and for the remainder of her life, she was able to distinguish only between light and dark. She learned from other members of the family and about 1895, she attended the Iowa State School for Blind at Vinton, where she learned to read and write Braille and also to operate a typewriter. She married an old acquaintance in 1900 and they raised a fine family of two daughters and a son, who are a credit to their parents. A dreadful accident caused her death in 1920. While shoveling coal into a furnace at her home, flames from a gas explosion enveloped her, setting fire to her clothing and the resulting third degree burns caused her death. Her two daughters are school teachers, one teaching at Novinger, the other at Montgomery City, Mo. The son followed a career in the U.S. Air Force and is a major nearing retirement and lives near Salt Lake City.

My oldest brother, Job, was a tinner and hardware man. He married Rena Vincent, who was a milliner and dressmaker in Guthrie Center. My father performed the marriage ceremony on Christmas Day, 1890 at the bride's home near Brighton, Iowa. My brother died less than six months later of tuberculosis. (They called it "consumption" in those days.)

My brother George was associated with his brother as a tinner and hardware man and about 1896 was a partner in the Sheldahl & Shenton Hardware at Perry. Sheldahl retired from the firm about two years later and my brother continued in the hardware, heating and plumbing business until his death in 1930. His widow lives in Perry with her daughter, Rose, who is receptionist in the office of Dr. K. W. Diddy. The other daughter, Frances, married Clarence N. Ridnour and lives on a farm near Perry. They lost their only child following an accident in 1950.



My sister Emma married Gay E. Nichols of Atlantic, at Osceola, where my parents were then living, in 1894. Her husband was a farmer and later became a minister in the Methodist and Christian churches. Their oldest son, John, is engaged in the banking business and now is senior vice president of the Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago. He is also an alderman in his home town of Evanston. The second son, Byron, is a horticulturist at South Dakota State College and lives on a farm near Brookings, So. Dak. The oldest daughter, Myrtle, died this past summer in a hospital at Osceola. The second daughter, Marie, lived for several years in Santa Monica and Long Beach, Calif., but now lives in Boise, Idaho. One of her sons is with the U.S. Army in Thailand, the other is a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. The youngest son of my sister, Emma, Lloyd, lives on a farm near Anita, Iowa.

My brother David was a minister in the Des Moines Methodist conference. Following his graduation from Drew Theological Seminary in 1907, he served the Perry Circuit, Blockton, Russell, Shelby, Audubon, Winterset and Clarinda churches and as a superintendent of the Clarinda and Council Bluffs districts. He died while he was pastor of the Jefferson Methodist church. His daughter married a newspaperman, who was employed at the Council Bluffs Nonpareil and now is editor and publisher of the Tabor Beacon. Following her graduation from Simpson College, she taught in the Council Bluffs schools.

Of my own family, there are a son and daughter and three grandchildren. When I graduated from Simpson College in 1907, I was already employed at the Indianola Herald and eventually became editor and owner. I sold out in 1944 and came to California, living in Fullerton. I have been employed at the Santa Ana Register since 1946. My daughter graduated from Simpson College and the library school of the University of Illinois and has been the librarian at Excelsior High School at Norwalk, California for more than 10 years. My youngest son served three years in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and was called back for a short hitch during the Korean War. He also was an employee of the Santa Ana Register before and after his military service. He is now the mechanical superintendent of the Orange Daily News. My other son died at the age of 21 when he was a junior in the horticulture department at Iowa State College, Ames.

The members of the family are scattered over a dozen States. It is my hope that if, in the future, any of them wish to know who were some of their ancestors, they will find this outline interesting. I also hope that there are not too many errors in it, but I realize that handling so many names and so many dates and places, it is easy for mistakes to creep in.

And now, it's up to someone else to take it from here.

SETH F. SHENTON

Fullerton, California  
November, 1959.

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